

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Bulgarian Border Guards, organized late in 1947, are composed as follows:

- a. Commander, Yonko Panov; until 1951, General Bulgarinov was in command from 1951 to April 1952, Colonel Lev Glavinchev, former Macedonian terrorist, and federalist, was in command of the Border Guards;
- b. A Supreme Command, in Sofia, Chief of Staff and Deputy Commander, Colonel Zakhario Botev, chief of staff of an infantry division during World War II;
- c. A training office, commanded by Colonel Peshev;
- d. A political section, commanded by Colonel Markov;
- e. An intelligence section, commanded by Colonel Melnov;
- f. A services section, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Pozarov;
- g. An administration section, headed by Dr. Panov, a well-known Communist leader;
- h. A personnel section; and
- i. A transportation section.

25X1

2. The following officers are employed in the Services Section:

- a. Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Stoyshkev, chief of the medical section; and
- b. Lieutenant Colonel Shishkov, a veterinarian, native of Plovdiv, chief of the veterinary section; and

c. Three other commands, each headed by a colonel.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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3. The Bulgarian Border Guard Brigades are each commanded by a colonel and are responsible for the frontier areas as follows:
- a. The one brigade, responsible for the Yugoslav frontier;
 - b. The two brigade, responsible for the Greek frontier; and
 - c. The three brigade, responsible for the Turkish frontier.
4. Each Border Guard brigade is composed of a number of battalions which varies but is usually close to 15. Each battalion includes the following:
- a. A commander;
 - b. A command; and
 - c. Four companies, three composed of trained Border Guards and one of recruits.
5. Each Border Guard company is generally subdivided into eight units or guard posts, each composed of about 30 men, commanded by a lieutenant. Each unit is in turn subdivided into three squads, each commanded by a noncommissioned officer.
6. In 1952, a Border Guards training unit was created in Zlatograd, where a small number of recruits are trained.
7. The men scheduled to be assigned to Border Guard units are trained in infantry regiments for the first two months and are then sent to the instruction company of the Border Guard battalion to complete their training.
8. Officers assigned to Border Guards units are drawn from the Infantry and must be in the Regular Army and have attended the "Vasil Levski" Military Academy, or be reserve officers who have frequented the "Khristo Botev" school in Sofia.
9. Specialized courses are given by the "Instruction Company" of the various Border Guard battalions, as follows:
- a. Machine gunners;
 - b. Mortar gunners;
 - c. Drivers;
 - d. Radio-telegraph operators; and
 - e. Telephone operators.
10. Border Guard troops serve for the following periods:
- a. Volunteers: three years; and
 - b. Draftees: two years.
- Actually, those drafted into the Border Guards always serve several additional months, up to as much as 30 months.
11. The armament of Border Guards units consists of the following:
- a. 7.22 mm. pistols;
 - b. Submachine guns;
 - c. Rifles; and
 - d. 9 mm. machine guns.
12. A few months ago mortars of an unknown caliber were also distributed to Border Guard units.
12. At present, the Bulgarian Border Guards are subordinate to two Ministries, as

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- 3 -

25X1

follows:

- a. The ministry of Defense, for training and general work; and
- b. The Ministry of Interior, for security work and special assignments.

This dual subordination has brought about jealousies and disputes, but the Soviets probably decided on this so that officials of the Ministry of Interior would check on the officers subordinate to the Ministry of Defense, and vice-versa. All this in spite of the fact that each battalion has a political commissar, and there are cells in the smaller units. Another unidentified Bulgarian stated that the control is necessitated by the definite appeal held by frontier duty, namely contraband, or escape. Precautions are never too numerous.

13. In 1948, there were 20,000 Border Guards in Bulgaria, and in 1952 there were allegedly between 50,000 and 60,000.
14. It has not been possible to get definite information as to what Ministry finances the Border Guards. [redacted] the Border Guards are said to be carried on the Budget of the Ministry of Interior. [redacted] 25X1
15. A Border Guard battalion command is allegedly located in Sveti Vrach; it may be known as a sector. [redacted] several months ago 25X1
small units of 14 Infantry Regiment were stationed near that Border Guard battalion, or sector.
16. Infantry soldiers belonging to an unidentified infantry regiment were also observed in Petrich, where a Border Guards company is stationed. Trudovaks were observed in Nevrokop, Smolyan (N 41-34, E 24-42), and Svilengrad, doing excavation work of an unknown type. Also observed in this area were several officers from pioneer units and elements of the Militia.

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